

**Regular Meeting of the Yinghua Academy School Board**  
1616 Buchanan Street, NE, Minneapolis, MN, Media Center  
Monday, April 18, 2016, 6:00 PM  
Yinghua Academy Media Center

**Board Members in Attendance:** Kimberly Gill (Secretary), Denny Grubish (Treasurer), Emily Hanson, Rosemary Lawrence, Karen Lu (Chair), Joel Luedtke (arrived 6:10), Lisa Matre, Suzanne Reider (arrived 6:06), Jen Shadowens, Seth Werner, Sarah Whiting (arrived 6:05), Christopher Ziolkowski

**Board Members not in Attendance:** Amanda Schneider

**Executive Director in Attendance:** Sue Berg

**YACA Chair in Attendance:** Dina Nash (arrived 6:14 PM)

**Public in Attendance:** Luyi Lien, Jennifer Olsen, Paul Haller

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lu called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

II. APPROVALS (19 min)

a. 4/18/16 Agenda

**The MOTION by Mr. Grubish to approve the agenda as amended was seconded and passed.**

b. 3/21/16 Regular Meeting Minutes

**The MOTION by Ms. Matre to approve the minutes was seconded and passed.**

c. Student Leave of Absence

Six students from three families have submitted requests for leaves of absences. All families have submitted academic plans that have been reviewed by the Academic Director. Administration recommends approval of all three requests.

**The MOTION by Ms. Shadowens to approve the leaves of absences was seconded and passed.**

d. Policy 005 Student Leave of Absence – Approval

**The MOTION by Ms. Hanson to approve Policy 005 Student Leave of Absence was seconded and passed.**

e. Bylaws Amendment (Personnel, Board Leave) – Approval

**The MOTION by Ms. Matre to approve amended Bylaws was seconded and passed.**

f. Policy YA-011 Employee Immigration – Second Reading

Discussion ensued regarding language used in policy.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. ACADEMIC REPORT (44 min)

Dr. Lien gave an overview of the highlights and progress being made in academics. Data from testing measures NWEA, STAR, and MCA were shared. Discussion ensued regarding the testing measures and the data gathering methods. SOPA and OPI data was also presented. ACTFL levels correlating to the OPI data was shared.

IV. PERSONNEL UPDATE (7 min)

Ms. Hanson presented the CEO/Executive Director's second quarter performance evaluation. She shared the strengths and areas for growth for the CEO/Executive Director. The next evaluation undertaking will be input from board members in the form of a survey.

V. FINANCE/FACILITIES UPDATE (43 min)

a. Review and Comment

Mr. Grubish shared that Yinghua had a positive review and comment from MDE. This will be published in a legal newspaper. Mr. Kepler, Yinghua's real estate attorney, will continue working on YBC, Inc. acquisition of the property which should be concluded by summer.

b. FY 2017 Budget

There was discussion regarding allocation of Fund 04 expenses. Mrs. Berg shared revised 2016 budget and presented the 2017 budget plan. Discussion ensued regarding questions that arose from increase in budget allocation. The draft of budget will be presented to Friends of Education on May 1, 2016. The final budget will be approved in June.

**The MOTION by Ms. Whiting to approve draft FY2017 budget was seconded and passed.**

VI. GOVERNANCE UPDATE (16 min)

a. Policy Language Alignment on Non-Discrimination – Second Reading

Discussion ensued regarding the alignment of language in policies of non-discrimination. It was advised by our attorney that we leave the categories of non-discrimination specific to each policy language as they are written, since they tie back to individual statutes. There was discussion regarding whether or not the creation of a gender identity policy is needed. Although our attorney confirmed that current Yinghua policies protect gender identity, the board tasked the Governance committee with creating a draft gender identity policy for its consideration.

a. Board Survey Results

Tabled for next meeting

b. Board Candidates Update

Ms. Matre shared that there are twelve candidates for four open positions – 3 teachers, 7 parents, and 1 community member - 2 are incumbent board members. Each candidate will be given time to introduce themselves at the annual board meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voting will be open until May 9<sup>th</sup>.

VII. STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE (17 min)

Ms. Hanson shared that the strategic plan task force committee has interviewed three consultants, and it has found a consultant that it recommends for Yinghua's strategic plan.

**The MOTION by Ms. Shadowens to move forward with the consultant recommended by the strategic plan taskforce for the next long term strategic plan was seconded and passed.**

VII. ADJOURN

**The MOTION by Ms. Whiting to adjourn at 8:29PM was seconded and passed.**

Minutes drafted by Kimberly Gill

Approved by Vote of Board on May 16, 2016